

LOS ALAMOS FIRES

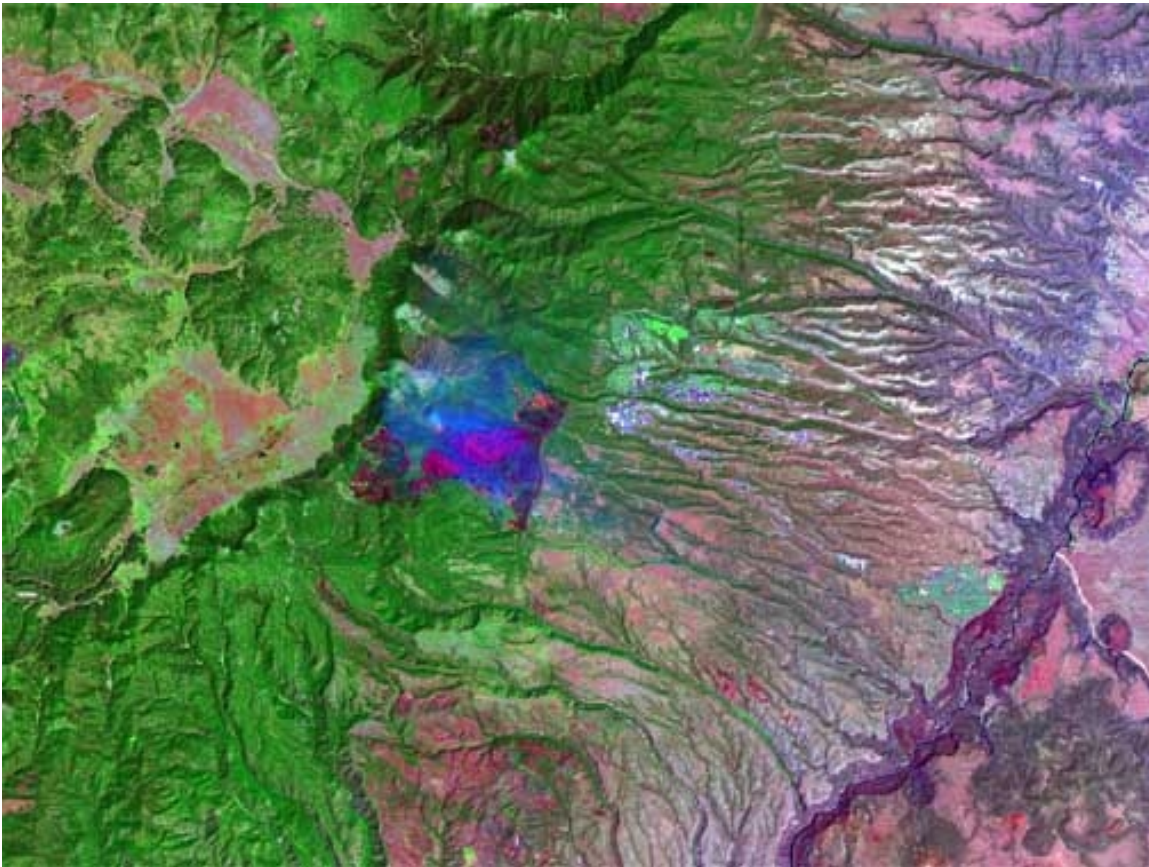
On May 9, 2000, the Landsat 7 satellite acquired an image of the Los Alamos, New Mexico area. The Landsat 7 satellite acquired this image from 427 miles in space through its sensor called the Enhanced Thematic MapperPlus (ETM). Evident within the imagery is a view of the ongoing Cerro Grande fire near the town of Los Alamos and the Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Within all imagery several features are clearly visible including the Cerro Grande fire and smoke plume, the town of Los Alamos, the Los Alamos National Laboratory and associated property, and Cerro Grande peak.



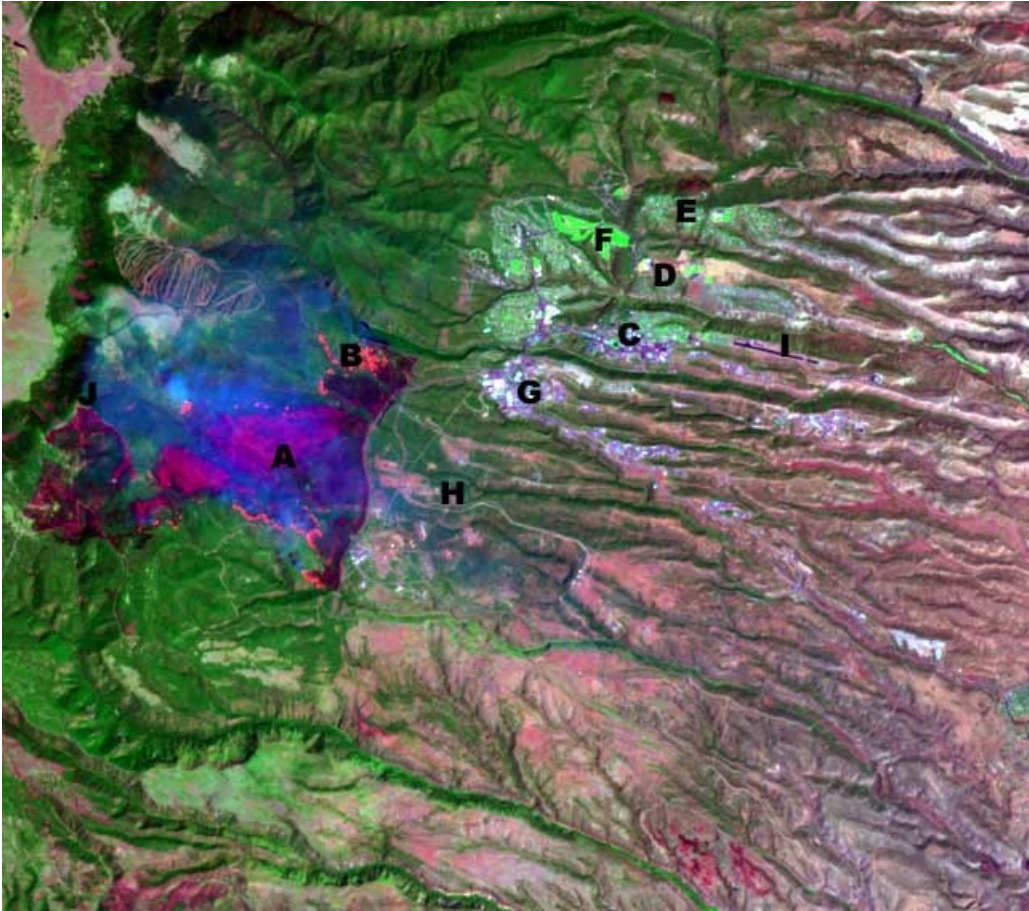
3-2-1 (RGB) Band Combination

Combining ETM+ channels 3, 2, and 1 provides a true-color image of the greater Los Alamos region (top image). Vegetation is generally dark to medium green. Forested areas are very dark green while herbaceous vegetation is medium green. Rangeland or more open areas appear as tan or light brown. Areas with extensive pavement or urban development appear white to light green. Less densely-developed residential areas appear medium green and golf courses are medium green. The fires and areas recently burned are obscured by smoke plumes which are white to light blue.



7-4-2 (RGB) Band Combination

Combining ETM+ channels 7, 4, and 2 (two infrared channels, one visible channel) results in a false color image where vegetation appears as bright to dark green (bottom image). Forested areas are generally dark green while herbaceous vegetation is light green. Rangeland or more open areas appear pink to light purple. Areas with extensive pavement or urban development appear light blue or white to purple. Less densely-developed residential areas appear light green and golf courses are very bright green. The areas recently burned appear black. Dark red to bright red patches, or linear features within the burned area, are the hottest and possibly actively burning areas of the fire. The fire is spreading downslope and the front of the fire is readily detectable about 2 kilometers to the west and south of Los Alamos.



7-4-2 (RGB) Band Combination

Image Key

- A - Fire Scar/Burned Area
- B - Very Hot or Active Fire Areas
- C - Los Alamos Downtown
- D - Los Alamos (North Mesa/Mostly Residential)
- E - Los Alamos (Barranca Mesa/Mostly Residential)
- F - Los Alamos Golf Course
- G - Los Alamos National Laboratory (Main Buildings)
- H - Los Alamos National Laboratory (General property/Storage Areas?)
- I - Los Alamos Airport Runway
- J - Cerro Grande Peak